



## **INFORMATION REGARDING SURVIVORS BENEFITS** **FOR FAMILIES OF MILITARY SERVICE MEMBERS**

Social Security benefits can be paid to the following survivors:

- Widow or widower at any age who takes care of a child (under age 16) of the deceased;
- Unmarried children under 18 (or up to age 19 if attending elementary/secondary school full time);
- Disabled children of any age who became disabled before age 22;
- Widow or widower age 60 or older; age 50 or older if disabled;
- Parent of deceased, age 62 or older if receiving  $\frac{1}{2}$  support from deceased before the death occurred;
- Special one-time-only lump sum payment of \$255 to spouse or minor children under certain circumstances.

When you are ready to file, you may choose to:

1. Call a special toll-free number **1-866-777-7887 between 7:00AM-4:00PM ET M-F** for families of Military Service members and we will take your claim right away over the telephone using our expedited process. Please have ready (if available):
  - the name, social security number, date of birth, and date of death of the deceased,
  - the name, date of birth, social security number for yourself and any other survivors (if you do not have these immediately available, we can still take your claim).

**NOTE:** Hearing impaired family members of Military Service members may contact us at **TTD/TTY 1-866-545-7316 between 7:00AM-4:00PM ET M-F** to have your claim taken right away over the telephone using our expedited process.

2. Call our regular toll-free number **1-800-772-1213 between 7:00AM-7:00PM Local Time M-F** and ask us to schedule an in-office or telephone appointment for you or have someone at your local office call you if you prefer not to use our expedited telephone claims process in # 1.
3. Visit your local office if you prefer not to use our expedited telephone claims process in # 1. If you are not sure where the office is located, check your telephone directory, call our regular 800 number in # 2 above, or visit us on the web at **[www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov)** (click on How To, then How to Find Your Local Office).

***Our goal is to provide courteous and compassionate service.***

***We are here to help. Contact us when you are ready.***

April 4, 2003